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OPINIONS • COMICS

Sam Gallegos

ELECTION '94

PATRIOT GAMES

"PATRIOT" CANDIDATES CHARLES DUKE AND DAVID BOYD FUEL THE FIRE OF ANGRY CONSERVATIVES

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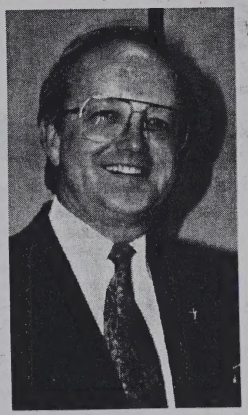
A Christian Crusade or White Supremacist Revolt?

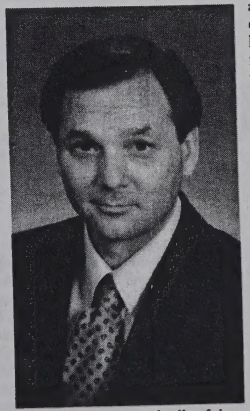
Patriots

Fueled by a building outrage at the federal government and convinced of a global conspiracy to disarm American citizens and create a "new world order," patriots in El Paso County have at least two candidates who vow to take the constitutionalists' fight to political office. Their names: Charles Duke and David Boyd.



"We're in a battle to recover the country.... It's in the grip of something that's very un-Christianlike," declared Duke, Republican candidate for Senate District 9, which includes most of northern El Paso County. "The time is near when we must choose whether to stand up and fight. I for one am ready to stand up and fight."

Duke has used his platform as a state representative to become a leading figure in the national "Patriot Movement," a largely white Christian male phenomenon whose members have taken up the battle for states' rights, gun rights, prayer in schools, education vouchers and white male equality. They oppose abortion, taxes, federally mandated programs like affirmative action and environmental protection laws, and eroding Christian morality, particularly in government.



"Patriots" is a generic term that applies to local chapters of patriot organizations such as Sons of Liberty, Gun Owners of America, the National Rifle Association, Right to Life, Christian Coalition, Firearms Coalition and the Ku Klux Klan. It's difficult to assess the number of patriots in the conservative movement, because individuals usually hold multiple memberships.

More than 2,000 clubs are counted under the umbrella of the national Constitutionists Networking Center in Baldwin, Kan.

Patriot groups view county sheriffs as the most powerful law officers in the land, leaders who are able to command citizen militias. Those citizen militias are groups of armed citizens with training, some are disenchanted former members of police agencies, and all could be called to action against the federal government.

Citizen militias are not to be confused with the El Paso County Sheriff Office's 28-member volunteer reserve posse, comprised of retired deputies and trained citizens — all state-certified. These members are primarily used as security for community events, sports games and visiting dignitaries.

Boyd and Duke

The chairs of both the local Republican and Democratic parties have denounced Republican-turned-Democrat David Boyd in his bid for El Paso County sheriff, but local patriot groups support the candidate.

"We would support David Boyd. We endorsed Charlie Duke," said Bill Cory, publisher of *The Patriot News* in Colorado Springs. In the race for county sheriff, the newspaper originally endorsed William "Bill" Barrett, who lost the Republican primary to John Anderson in August. Having managed Barrett's first campaign for county sheriff in 1990, it's not surprising Boyd inherited many of his old friend's Republican supporters and $700 worth of yard signs.

Apparently Duke's supporters embrace the Democratic candidate for sheriff as well. Among the winners and losers gathered at Centennial Hall on election night were Duke and his campaign manager, Joyce Campbell, surrounded by ardent supporters. Moments before Duke stepped in front of the television lights, Boyd wiggled through the crowd to offer congratulations. Taking his hand in both of hers, Campbell said, "Remember, David, your campaign starts tomorrow."

Like Duke, Boyd is first a constitutionist.

"There is nothing in my oath [as sheriff] that says I have to uphold state and federal laws," Boyd said. "If I have to come between your rights and the federal government, I will. I'll go to jail for your rights."

But El Paso County Sheriff Bernard Barry said the oath of office requires his successor to "abide by the Constitution and enforce state laws." Barry said that if whoever is elected the new sheriff fails to uphold the duties of office — or abuses powers — he will be indicted and temporarily replaced by the county coroner, and the Governor

By Leslie Jorgensen

Angry conservatives seek salvation in Duke and Boyd

could ultimately name a new sheriff.

Boyd has waged an aggressive campaign — attacking his opponents Anderson and Skip Moreau, an independent candidate. Like Duke, Boyd stresses Christian values and patriot anger.

The Brady Bill "is unconstitutional and I will not enforce the Brady mandate," said Boyd. A campaign ad in *Colorado Christian News* listed the Democrat's top positions as "anti-gun control, pro-concealed weapons" and pitched Boyd as a "CHRISTIAN FAMILY MAN," who praises the Lord at New Life Church.

> "We're in a battle to recover the country...It's in the grip of something that's very un-Christianlike."
>
> — State Senate District 9 candidate Charles Duke

Duke has also attended New Life Church and was introduced to the thousand-fold congregation from the pulpit. In an interview with *The Colorado Statesman*, Duke said the country was founded on Christian principles by those fleeing religious persecution in England.

In a spirited speech to patriots at a Guardians of American Liberties (GOAL) meeting in Denver on July 30, Duke rallied the troops with a warning.

"We are dealing with something that's evil here. We're dealing with something that took over a nation led by Christ, created by Christ and put in place by Christians," he intoned. "If you listen real close, if you really turn up your sensitivity, you can hear the evil that flows through the [legislative] body.... You can hear cackling in the ceiling, you can hear the smiles of the beast as it's trying to force its puppets to do its bidding."

> "There is nothing in my oath [as sheriff] that says I have to uphold state and federal laws."
>
> — El Paso County sheriff candidate David Boyd

Ben Glidden, who is running against Duke, calls his opponent's crusade an "empty-headed means of seeking attention." Glidden, who served in Vietnam, saw the bloody consequences of revolution firsthand.

"People like Charlie don't understand the consequences of talk about revolution," he said.

White Supremacist Links

Like other radical right movements, the patriots enhance their political agenda with the Bible, the U.S. Constitution and the American flag, sometimes unfurling the Confederate flag when they rally. The Constitutionists Networking Center (CNC) opened its June convention in the Indianapolis Baptist Temple with a rousing rendition of "Dixie."

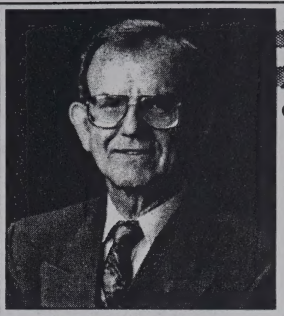
"Yeehaw!" yelled the Rev. John Lewis, wearing a black robe and cowboy boots. "That ought to be our national anthem. Those are the values your grand-daddies died for." Teasing that a musket might be concealed beneath his flowing robe, Lewis disrobed to reveal a revolutionary war uniform. The pastor of a Virginia church and headmaster of a home school continued his Biblical sermon, "The Old Way." The benediction was delivered by Larry Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America.

Elements of the scene are eerily similar to the Ku Klux Klan initiation ceremony chronicled in *The Klan Unmasked*, authored by Stetson Kennedy. A renowned authority on the Ku Klux Klan, Kennedy wrote, "...the altar was about waist height, and was draped with a Confederate flag, in the centre of which lay an open Bible."

The chaplain, known as the Kludd, delivered a prayer, "God of our fathers, we thank Thee for these tall sun-crowned men who are about to become Knights of the Ku Klux Klan! May they so live as Klansmen as to always be an honour to their God, country and fellow knights! These favors we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Klansman's true criterion of character. Amen!"

The Ku Klux Klan's corporate charter in 1916 stated its purpose in Georgia was to be "a non-profit, charitable, benevolent eleemosynary (charitable) society for the promotion of True Americanism."

Continued on page 12



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Colorado Springs Independent
Aug 3, 1994

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Continued from page 11

Most patriot groups, including CNC, adamantly deny ties to the Klan or any other white supremacist organizations — and some even claim to have Jewish or minority members. But white supremacist views emanate from their literature, from individual club newsletters to newspapers, and their speakers.

Duke was invited to speak at the Indianapolis CNC conference along with Kirk Lyons, an attorney whose clients include Holocaust revisionists, Ku Klux Klan members and skinheads. Lyons, who canceled his CNC engagement, heads the North Carolina-based CAUSE, reported to be a white supremacist organization — though Lyons denies such a label. Working with Lyons are his wife's parents, Charles and Betty Tate, former leaders of Aryan Nations based in Idaho.

During the CNC convention, Duke rhetorically asked why there are 535 members of Congress "who do not seem to understand what the [10th] Amendment is all about." Some in the audience shouted, "Bilderburgers! Bilderburgers!", referring to a conspiracy theory that claims Jewish bankers control the world monetary supply. Duke responded, "I think you're right."

In Colorado, Duke gained media attention when, as a state legislator, he cast votes against a Holocaust resolution because it included homosexuals among the victims, and against an amendment to a similar resolution the following year, arguing it inflated the number of Nazi guards at a Jewish prison camp.

This past August, Duke agreed to give a keynote speech at the Jubilation Celebration sponsored by the Jubilee newspaper in California. The slate of speakers included Red Beckman, a "Christian Patriot" and tax resister from Montana, and Louis Beam, a Jubilee columnist and former grand dragon of the Texas Ku Klux Klan.

Despite scanning the Jubilee newspaper, whose writers espouse anti-Semitic and pro-Anglo Saxon views, Duke said he wasn't aware of any racism until the Anti-Defamation League called. He abruptly canceled the appearance.

Duke denied any bias or bigotry among the patriots but admitted they firmly oppose affirmative action programs that discriminate against white males. Perhaps more offensive to Duke is special rights for homosexuals.

"Homosexuality is an aberration. It's strong abuse of the body," Duke told *The Capitol Reporter* in March. In his weekly column to newspapers, the Colorado legislator wrote, "The AIDS disease, introduced and perpetuated by the homosexual community, bears sharp witness to the consequences of using one's body in an unnatural way."

Under Duke's agenda, women fare only slightly better. When the legislature debated a sexual harassment policy, Duke supposed the problem had existed for "a million years, but women have been able to handle it. All of the sudden we're in a time the women are saying, 'Oh, you've got to help us take care of this.' Girls…not girls, but ladies, learn how to handle that situation yourselves."

Citizen Militias or Anarchists?

Introducing himself as a "state representative and part-time revolutionary" at the CNC convention, Duke lashed out against the U.S. Congress.

"I'm tired of their lies. I'm tired of their money. I'm tired of their corruption." He accused Republican Sen. Hank Brown of being "owned" by Washington special interests and warned, "I think [Brown] should be very careful when he comes back to the state. Most of Colorado is armed…."

Duke was referring to citizen militias. "We're trying to find ways to convince sheriffs whose side they ought to be on. If push comes to shove, people are ready," he said. "The militia is forming with or without [sheriffs]. It would be nice if they'd come along; if they don't, it's not required."

The legislator said citizens are prepared to fight United Nations troops on Colorado soil — a scenario envisioned if the state were engulfed in a civil war against the federal government.

Larry Zeskind, former research director for the Center for Democratic Renewal, said the citizen militia appears to be a resurrection of the Posse Comitatus, a movement that fought civil rights in the 1950s and 1960s.

"The Justice Department labeled it a terrorist organization," said Zeskind, who believes posse members went underground 20 years ago in Southern states, as well as in Colorado.

The Posse Comitatus was active in southern El Paso Country up until the early 1980s. Sheriff Barry said members are still around and are active in the movement to form citizen militias.

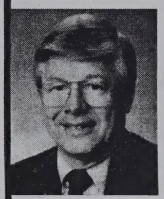
Like Duke, David Boyd advocates citizen militias. But he puts a more acceptable public spin on the issue — pledging to put more law enforcement on the streets without increasing the budget. He also has promised to hike pay for professional deputies and to strip more than 20 high-ranking officers of their rank and pay, offering them patrol duties and lower salaries.

Boyd proposes training and deputizing independent posse members in the county. Under his plan, marked sheriff's vehicles will be manned by two members of the posse wearing badges and uniforms, making their cars indistinguishable from those driven by professional law enforcement officers.

According to Barry, that's against the law. In January 1995, the state requirements for volunteer reserve posse members will become more stringent. In addition to polygraph tests, background

Ben Glidden "Voice of Reason"

Ben Glidden's campaign slogan "a voice of reason for you," is clearly aimed at the differences between him and Republican state Rep. Charlie Duke. Both are vying to replace Sen. Mike Bird in Colorado State Senate District 9.



Voters won't get to compare the candidates at scheduled public radio or television forums — Duke refuses to engage Glidden. The Democrat is waging a lone battle, showing up at scheduled forums, buying television and print ads, and courting Republicans and Democrats through mailings and meetings.

"I just want to represent all of my voters in this Senate district," said Glidden, a self-described fiscal conservative. Referring to his opponent's leading role in the patriot movement, Glidden said, "I don't have any grand illusions about representing some national group."

A former member of the Colorado Springs School District 11 school board, Glidden is an investor and securities broker. He earned degrees from West Point and Harvard and spent 20 years in the Air Force, including tours in Southeast Asia.

— *Leslie Jorgensen*

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checks and police training, reservists will need more than 35 college credit hours in criminal justice and will wear badges, uniforms,and identification.

In an unusually nasty campaign, Boyd has labeled Anderson, who is also a Colorado Springs police sergeant, a "socialist" and clone of Barry.

Regarding the Brady Bill, Boyd declared, "I *will not enforce* the Brady mandate! I am not a federal agent, I work for you!"

Anderson responded that it is the sheriff's duty to uphold laws, not to violate or rewrite them. He said that good communication between agencies — local, state and federal — will improve the sheriff department's performance.

Despite his assertions that party affiliations are irrelevant in the race, Boyd said he has more than 300 Republican committee members and/or delegates working on his campaign.

County Republican Party Chairman Bob Gardner said Boyd is courting "a group of people that is extremely disaffected. Most of us desire reform, but these people hold the most extreme view of that."

"They're extremists, the perennial outsiders."

Candid and Covert Operations

Most patriots view militias as a last resort if they fail to successfully effect change through the system — electing legislators to spearhead legislation within the states and Congress, or achieving political and social reforms through petitions. The patriots praise Doug Bruce for designing and delivering Amendment 1, the so-called Taxpayers Bill of Rights, in 1992.

A key piece of legislation is the 10th Amendment Resolution created by Duke this past year. The resolution to recognize the state's right to govern over that of the federal government is a message without legal impact that gained national attention — catapulting Duke onto a state and national circuit of patriot talk shows, conventions and meetings.

On the circuit, Duke taps into listeners' frustration with government and their fear of global conspiracies to disarm American citizens in order to create the new world order. Alleged evidence of the conspiracy include black helicopters monitoring citizens and microchips implanted in newborns for identification.

Smaller than a sliver of uncooked rice, the suspect microchips can be implanted near the wrist to serve as identification by using laser scanners to read the numbers. Patriots believe the microchip ID will even replace credit cards.

"This is not fiction," Duke warned. "I can tell you those microchips will do a lot more!"

He offers hope through the 10th Amendment Resolution and two new bills — one to override federal laws restricting gun ownership and banning assault weapons such as the AK 47, the other to create an escrow account to withhold taxes from the federal government.

The problem of Congress imposing mandates on the states "will be resolved pretty quickly," said Duke, who helped draft the CNC's legislative objectives. "The beast in Washington feeds on money. The way you control the beast is to get all of the money."

If these efforts fail, the patriot movement hopes to convene a "Second Constitutional Convention" in Denver, at Duke's invitation. The convention may pass the "Ultimatum Resolution" — a move that would essentially dissolve the federal government should it exceed a $6 trillion debt limit, fail to balance the budget within a 90-day notice or overstep its powers under the Constitution. According to Duke and other patriots, Congress has already exceeded its powers and the debt limit.

Behind the scenes, organizations like the CNC are drafting covert objectives. The CNC, chaired by former Arizona Gov. Evan Mecham, outlined "Operation Crosshatch," described as a "four-year plan to retake the country."

The plan includes a "National Security Project" to infiltrate and influence military officers, from enlisted men and women to the Pentagon; the "Community Security Project" to give every law enforcement officer a copy of the book *Vampire Killer 2000* that explains their duty to the Constitution; reforming the monetary system and "eliminating Socialists" from Congress and state legislatures by 1996.

A march on Washington by gun-toting patriots intent on ousting Congressional members from office was aborted last month. It was instigated by Linda Thompson of Texas, a talk-show host promoted on the CNC's patriot radio network and a recent guest on Chuck Baker's KVOR "On the Carpet" in Colorado Springs.

"Because the mainstream media will not get the word out, the People's Radio Network does" states a flier listing patriot shows aired by 259 stations via satellite and shortwave, AM and FM radio in 44 states. Of the five stations in Colorado, patriots in Colorado Springs can tune into KEPC, 89.7 FM.

It's not a new game plan.

In the 1940s, KKK authority Kennedy infiltrated a youthful arm of the KKK, hailed as "a group chartered for moral revival." Their mission sounds chillingly familiar today:

"We're going to show the white Anglo-Saxons how to take control of the government. First a neighborhood, then the whole city, then the state government, and finally the national government!" ★

Leslie Jorgensen is a contributing editor to The Colorado Statesman, *a statewide political newspaper published in Denver. Information about State Rep. Charles Duke and the patriot movement first appeared Aug. 5, 1994, in* The Colorado Statesman.

John Anderson
On the side of Caution

Republican John Anderson believes that sheriff's posse volunteers should have the highest level of training possible — at minimum, state level requirements for volunteers should be met.

One of the primary reasons a volunteer should have extensive training is so he or she knows when deadly force is appropriate, and when it's not.

Anderson said the highest level of training and certification protects the sheriff's office, the volunteer and the community.

"I think it's very irresponsible [not to enforce the state requirements]," Anderson said. "It leaves the county open to civil litigation."

Anderson's opponent, David Boyd, has not clarified his position on the level of training he would require in his volunteers. He has said he would not be bound by state or federal mandates but, instead, would judge the constitutionality of the laws before making decisions.

"I do not fear our government whether at the local, state or federal level," said Anderson, "What most people fear is this gray omnipresence out there. But [politicians] are people, and those people are people in whom I have trust."

— *Cara DeGette*

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